

REMARKS

Upon entry of the instant Amendment, claims 17-21 and 35 will be pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 1-16, 22-24 and 36-38 will have been canceled. Reconsideration of the rejections in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Allowable Claims

Applicants acknowledge and appreciate that claims 17-21 and 35 were indicated to be allowed. Since all of the rejected claims have been canceled, Applicants submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections**Over IIZUKA with HALMANN**

Claims 1-8, 11-13, 16 and 22-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for being allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,485,561 to IIZUKA et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,526,163 to HALMANN et al.

For the reasons already made of record, Applicants respectfully submit that a *prima facie* case of unpatentability cannot be established because no proper combination of IIZUKA and HALMANN discloses or suggests each and every element of the claims.

Nevertheless, Applicants submit that this rejection is now moot inasmuch as these claims have been canceled in order to obtain issuance of the allowed claims.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Over IIZUKA with HALMANN and WANG

Claims 9, 10, 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for being allegedly unpatentable over IIZUKA in view of HALMANN and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,701,752 to WANG.

The Examiner acknowledges that IIZUKA and HALMANN lack, among other things, rotating about an origin and mirroring points of the second geometric shape. However, the Examiner asserts that such features are taught or suggested by WANG and that it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of these documents to achieve the claimed invention. For reasons already made of record, Applicants respectfully submit that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established as the applied references fail to teach each and every element of the claims.

Nevertheless, Applicants submit that this rejection is now moot inasmuch as these claims have been canceled in order to obtain issuance of the allowed claims.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the above-noted rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Over IIZUKA with HALMANN and NAVON

Claims 34 and 36-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for being allegedly unpatentable over IIZUKA in view of HALMANN and further in view of U.S. Patent No.

6,729,544 to NAVON.

The Examiner acknowledges that IIZUKA and HALMANN lack, among other things, the features recited in the above-noted dependent claims. However, the Examiner asserts that such features are taught or suggested by NAVON and that it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of these documents to achieve the claimed invention. For reasons already made of record, Applicants respectfully submit that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established as the applied references fail to teach each and every element of the claims.

Nevertheless, Applicants submit that this rejection is now moot inasmuch as these claims have been canceled in order to obtain issuance of the allowed claims.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the above-noted rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all of the claims are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below, if needed.

Respectfully submitted,
R. C. VAN HALL, *et al.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew M. Calderon', written over a horizontal line.

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